



News Release

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Leading Anti-racist Essayist, Author and Educator, Tim Wise to Speak October 15

The City of Eugene, University of Oregon, Lane County and Eugene Water and Electric Board are collaborating to bring prominent international lecturer Tim Wise to the UO campus this Thursday, October 15, at 7:30 p.m. Wise will be speaking in Straub Hall, Room 156, on race and class inequity in America. Community members are invited to attend the special opportunity to hear this noted speaker at a free event.

The author will conduct a book signing in the lobby following the lecture. Prior to the talk, community groups will have exhibits and information tables in the lobby from 6:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and educators in the United States. Named one of "25 Visionaries Who are Changing Your World," by Utne Reader, Wise has spoken in all 50 states, on more than 800 college and high school campuses, and to community groups across the nation. He has authored six books and contributed essays to 25 books. More information on Wise can be found on his [website](#) or at [speakout.org](#)

Eric Richardson, president of the Eugene/Springfield chapter of the NAACP, said, "Tim Wise powerfully addresses white folks' relationship with the color line in America. His voice is an essential part of the conversation on a critical issue that continues to plague us in the 21st century."

"In Eugene, we strive for equity for all people and are constantly working to ensure our city is a place that is respectful and welcoming for everyone," added Mayor Kitty Piercy. "Like all communities across America, we have work to do on this issue. We need to continually engage in learning, dialogue and action that moves us closer to the community we aspire to be. Tim Wise helps us understand the personal, cultural and institutional prejudices that stand in the way and inspires us to take responsibility to be the change that is needed," said Piercy.

In addition to working on race and equity issues in their own organizations, the sponsoring groups are supporting this event as part of an effort to foster dialogue about race and inequity in American culture and in our local area.

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